

Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE)
Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council
Thursday, July 14, 2016
Minutes – Official

The July 14, 2016 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council was called to order at 1:22 P.M. Members present were: Capt. Stacy Barrett, Ms. Maria Blanco, Ms. Melanie Bronfin, Mr. James Evans, Representative Frank Hoffman, Ms. Jodi Loar, Ms. Paula Polito, Dr. Anthony Recasner, Ms. Cindy Rushing, Dr. Roberta Vicari and Mr. Alan Young. Ms. Kaffia Arvie, Senator Regina Barrow, Ms. Contessia Brooks, Dr. Jeanne Burns, Ms. Gina Young Cahee, Representative Gary Carter, Ms. Carole Elliot, Ms. Linda Lambert, Ms. Tamanika Odinga, Mr. Albert Mancuso, Ms. Kim Matherne, Senator Blade Morrish, Mr. John Warner Smith, and Mr. Kahree Wahid, Chief Dan Wallis, Ms. Carynn Wiggins were absent. Ms. Toni Ledet served as a proxy for Ms. Brenda Sharp, Mr. Jonathon Pearce served as a proxy for Ms. Lois Jordan, and Ms. Leslie Lewis served as a proxy for Ms. Amy Zapata.

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education was Jenna Conway.

Public comment was received from Nancy Alexander, Paula Granger, Sherry Guarisco, Mariette Hebert, and Amanda Rideaux.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Ms. Cindy Rushing.

Dr. Recasner made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2016 Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council. The Council's response was as follows:

- 1 On motion of Dr. Recasner, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council approved the minutes of the May 18, 2016 meeting of the Council.

Jenna Conway provided a presentation on the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Work Group on the Early Childhood Care and Education Network.

- 2 On motion of Dr. Recasner, and seconded by Dr. Vicari, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the creation of the Early Childhood Care and Education Network Work Group.

- 3 The council agreed to take Agenda Item VI "Consideration of revisions to Bulletin 137, *Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations*" and Agenda item VII "Consideration of revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs*" out of order, and hear them after Agenda Item

IV "Consideration of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Work Group on the Early Childhood Care and Education Network".

Jenna Conway provided a presentation on the proposed revisions to Bulletin 137, *Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations*.

- 4 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Dr. Recasner, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the revisions to Bulletin 137, *Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations* with the recommendation to include guidance regarding the expectations of emergency drills.

Jenna Conway provided a presentation on the proposed revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs*.

- 5 On motion of Ms. Bronfin, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed the revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs* with the following recommendations:

- The employment qualification criteria for the Child Care Assistance Program should be revised to be 20 hours per week for all qualifying applicants, and 15 hours per week for qualifying applicants that have a child with special needs.
- Consider regulations or guidance for how the Child Care Assistance Program waitlist will be prioritized, and report back to the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council by January 2017.
- Consider expanding the number of absences permitted within the qualification criteria for the Child Care Assistance Program for children with special needs, and report back to the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council by January 2017.
- Consider a process for including part-time school attendance as qualification criteria for the Child Care Assistance Program, and report back to the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council by January 2017.
- The Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council should revisit the Child Care Assistance Program proposed rates with an explicit focus on infants and toddlers in January 2017.
- Provide a report on the status of the foster care program within the Office of Community Services to the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council by January 2017.

Jenna Conway provided a presentation on the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Quarterly Report- Quarter 2.

- 6 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Dr. Recasner, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received the presentation of the Early Childhood Care and Education Quarterly Report.

- 7 On motion of Ms. Blanco, and seconded by Mr. Young, and with no further business to come before the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, the July 14, 2016 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council was adjourned at 3:24 P.M.